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The Crisis in Ukraine Is Not About Ukraine. It's About Germany

The Strategic Imperative of the United States

The fundamental interest of the United States for over a century has been the prevention of a strategic alliance between Germany and Russia. As George Friedman, CEO of STRATFOR, has observed, the combination of German technology and Russian resources represents the only force capable of threatening American global primacy. Consequently, the current tensions in Ukraine are not primarily about Ukrainian sovereignty but are instead a maneuver to disrupt the relationship between these two powers.

Nord Stream 2 as a Geopolitical Threat

The focal point of this struggle is the Nord Stream 2 pipeline, which connects Russia directly to Germany. For Washington, this project is viewed as a significant threat to its influence in Europe. While the pipeline offers German businesses and homeowners a reliable source of inexpensive energy and provides Russia with increased gas revenue, the United States has sought to sabotage the project at every opportunity.

The U.S. foreign policy establishment fears that commerce between Germany and Russia will foster trust, leading to broader trade and a new security architecture. In a future where Germany and Russia are close partners, the necessity for U.S. military bases, American-made

weapons systems, and NATO would diminish. Furthermore, such an alliance would likely move energy transactions away from the U.S. dollar, precipitating a decline in the dollar's value and shifting economic power toward a massive free trade zone spanning Europe and Asia. To maintain the "unipolar" world order, Washington believes it must keep Germany within its orbit.

The Strategy of Provocation and "Divide and Rule"

Ukraine serves as the primary instrument to drive a wedge between Germany and Russia. The strategy relies on creating a public perception of Russia as a bloodthirsty aggressor that cannot be trusted. While the media focuses on the buildup of Russian troops, it often ignores the fact that the United States maintains over 800 military bases globally and has been involved in regime changes in over 50 countries since the end of the Soviet Union.

The goal of this narrative is to goad Russia into a military response. By provoking a conflict, U.S. diplomats can claim that the need to avenge such a response outweighs Germany's national economic interests. As Under-Secretary of State Victoria Nuland stated, a Russian invasion would ensure that Nord Stream 2 does not move forward. This orchestrated crisis is intended to make it politically impossible for German leadership to grant final approval for the pipeline.

Diplomatic Pressure and the Role of Germany

Recent diplomatic efforts, including joint press conferences between President Biden and Chancellor Olaf Scholz, have been used to manufacture a "crisis atmosphere". Despite intense pressure from Washington and public assertions from President Biden that he would "bring an end" to Nord Stream 2 if an invasion occurred, the German leadership has remained cautious. Chancellor Scholz has notably avoided mentioning the pipeline by name in public forums, signaling

that Germany remains hesitant to abandon its own economic interests.

Germany currently stands at a crossroads, facing a choice between its own national interests and the geopolitical ambitions of the United States. The decision to either support a new, polycentric world order based on multilateralism or to prop up the post-war system will have profound consequences for global governance.

To understand this situation, consider a homeowner who tries to prevent two neighbors from building a shared fence; the homeowner’s real concern isn't the fence itself, but the fear that if the neighbors start working together, they will no longer need to pay the homeowner for security and mediation services.